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JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL



CENTENARY
EXERCISES

THE CENTENARY EXERCISES IN
HONOR OF THE LATE SENATOR
JUSTIN S. MORRILL, BY THE STATE
OF VERMONT, WAS CHARACTERIZED
BY ADDRESSES OF UNUSUAL MERIT.

AS AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION HIS SON, JAMES S. MORRILL, DESIRED TO PUBLISH THEM IN BOOK FORM, IN WHICH WORK HE WAS ENGAGED AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH WHICH OCCURRED SUDDENLY ON JULY 26TH AT HIS STRAFFORD HOME.

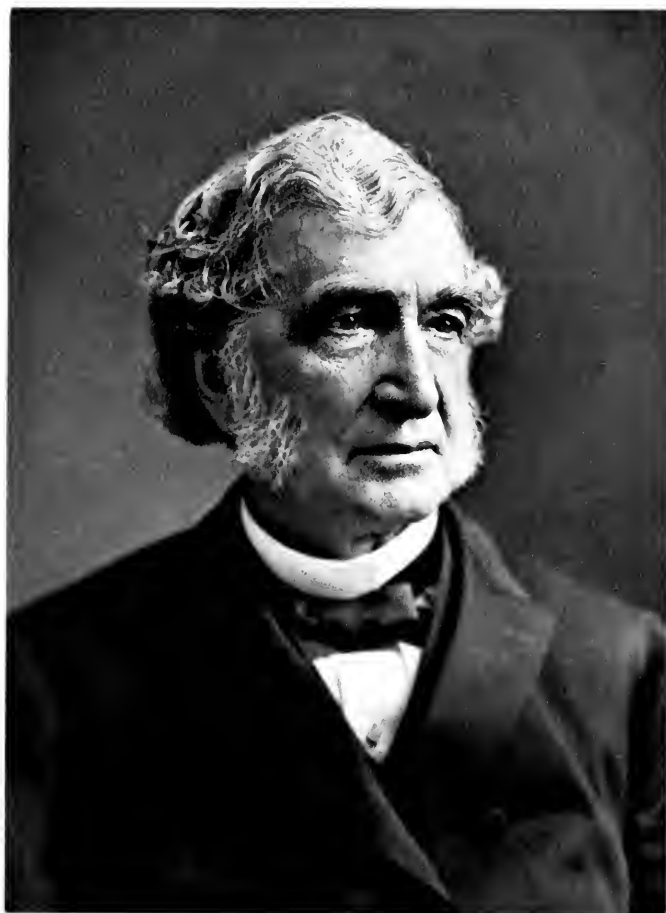
THE WORK WAS COMPLETED AND IS NOW BEING DISTRIBUTED BY HIS AUNT, MISS LOUISE S. SWAN.

STRAFFORD, VERMONT

SEPTEMBER 1, 1910



JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL



JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL

CENTENARY EXERCISES CELEBRATED BY
THE STATE OF VERMONT AT MONTPELIER
APRIL FOURTEENTH NINETEEN HUNDRED
AND TEN IN HONOR OF THE BIRTH OF
JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL WHO WAS FOR
TWELVE YEARS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES AND FOR OVER
THIRTY YEARS A UNITED STATES SENATOR

PUBLISHED NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TEN
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Miss Louise S. Swan

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O*N April 14, 1910, the State of Vermont, at Montpelier, celebrated in a dignified manner, yet with the simplicity well suited to the man and the occasion, the hundredth anniversary of the birth of JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL, whose death occurred on December 28, 1898. The audience included many of State-wide and National fame who came to do honor to the memory of this statesman.*

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PROGRAM OF EXERCISES

HIS EXCELLENCY
GOVERNOR GEORGE H. PROUTY, LL.D.
PRESIDING

MUSIC Largo from "New World Symphony" (DVRÁK)

SINGING BY CONGREGATION "America"

INVOCATION REV. J. EDWARD WRIGHT, D.D.

SCRIPTURE READING REV. STANLEY F. BLOMFIELD, B.A.

MUSIC "The Homeland" (HANSZON)

ADDRESS AND READING OF LETTERS
GOV. GEORGE H. PROUTY

MUSIC String Quartette from Suite (RAFF)

HISTORICAL ADDRESS
REV. MATTHEW H. BUCKHAM, D.D., LL.D.
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

MUSIC "Crossing the Bar" (SCHNECKER)

ADDRESS HON. WILLIAM P. DILLINGHAM
UNITED STATES SENATOR

ADDRESS COL. WILLIAM M. HATCH

MUSIC Traum (HUMPERDINCK)

ADDRESS COL. CURTIS S. EMERY

ADDRESS HON. HORACE W. BAILEY

BENEDICTION

ADDRESSES

ADDRESS OF
GOVERNOR GEORGE H. PROUTY

TODAY is the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Senator Justin S. Morrill, who for almost forty-four years represented the people of this State in the Congress of the United States. His services were of such a character as to give to Vermont an influence in the councils of the Nation far beyond anything commensurate with her size and population.

He was a product of Vermont soil—rising from the humble position of a farmer's son with only ordinary common school advantages to be one of the greatest leaders in the councils of the Nation. His success was not the result of accident of birth but was brought about by persistent, hard work, rugged honesty, and great common sense.

To realize the caliber of the man it is only necessary for us to remember that Mr. Morrill was absolutely without legislative experience when he became the unanimous choice of his party to be their representative in Congress. Within ten years he was advanced through his various committee appointments to be chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Thirty-ninth Congress, and the leader of the House.

We are prone to think of him as our Senator and to dwell on his great achievements as chairman of the Finance Committee of that body, but we ought also to remember that in the House he was a member of the Committee on Agriculture and was the father of the legislation granting aid to agricultural schools and colleges, thus providing for a great system of education for those engaged in the pursuit of farming—that industry on which is based our great national prosperity. While his achievements on the Finance Committee of the Senate gave him a place in history from which he can never be displaced, we must not forget that during all the time he was perfecting that great financial policy of our government, of which all subsequent policies have been only modifications, that he retained his love for the beautiful and worked incessantly for those ideals at once so beneficial and artistic, which culminated in the erection of that most beautiful of all buildings, the Congressional Library. From whatever point we view him we find a great man—not the greatness produced by some mighty oratorical effort but the result of untiring zeal for the building up of our country which he loved so truly. During the great war Vermont was proud of the record of her soldiers. They stood at the front and kept the lines closed up. None were braver, none performed greater deeds of valor on the field of battle; but great as these men were, and heroic as were their deeds, their patriotism would have been of no avail had

there not been in the halls of our National Congress men with the ability and clearness of vision to enact legislation that should secure to us for all time the results of the successful prosecution of the war ; and among those who succeeded in performing this great task towered the man whose memory we are honoring today. His was the master mind that formulated the great scheme for raising revenue, which became the wonder and admiration of the world.

This man stood in the front rank of those who were fighting the battle for good laws and fought as fiercely for what was right as did our soldiers.

The best testimony as to the real worth of a man is that given by those who have been closely associated with him in the active duties of his life. Fortunately we shall today have such expressions from those who for many years were his close personal associates and who are still active in the affairs of the Nation. But there were those who have passed on and cannot give expression to their love and esteem, but they have spoken it in the past and it is recorded.

Let me at this time read to you a few words of appreciation spoken by the late Senator Hoar, which tell so much better than I possibly can of his great worth and of the work he did.

“It would be impossible, even by a most careful study of the history of the country for the last forty years, to determine

with exactness what was due to Mr. Morrill's personal influence. Many of the great policies to which we owe the successful result of the Civil War—the abolition of slavery; the restoration of peace; the new and enlarged definition of citizenship; the restoration of order; the establishment of public credit; the homestead system; the foundation and admission of new states; the exaction of apology and reparation from Great Britain; the establishment of the doctrine of expatriation; the achievement of our manufacturing independence; the taking by the United States of its place as the foremost nation in the world in manufacture and in wealth, as it was already foremost in agriculture; the creation of our vast domestic commerce; the extension of our railroad system from one ocean to the other—were carried into effect by narrow majorities and would have failed but for the wisest counsel. When all these matters were before Congress, there may have been men more brilliant or more powerful in debate, but I cannot think of any wiser in counsel than Mr. Morrill. Many of them must have been lost but for his powerful support. Many owed to him the shape they finally took.”

Words such as these delivered by this great man, who was for so many years associated with Mr. Morrill, are the finest tribute that can be paid to him whom we love.

We do well to gather here to pay tribute to his memory, for by so doing we only repay in small degree the great debt of gratitude we owe him.

ADDRESS OF
PRESIDENT MATTHEW H. BUCKHAM

IT is now a little more than eleven years since here, in this capital city of Vermont, amid an imposing array of the representatives of the State and of the Nation, the body of Senator Morrill, with that of his wife, was consigned to the tomb, to be shortly after conveyed to their last resting-place in the cemetery of his native village. Few public men of our Nation have been honored with a more general and more heartfelt tribute of respect and affection than that which was then awarded to Senator Morrill by his fellow-citizens of Vermont, by his colleagues at Washington, and by the people throughout the United States. Since that time many of those who gave public expression to a people's admiration and sorrow have passed away—among them the Senator's junior colleague, Redfield Proctor, who in his place in the Senate said, "there is sorrow at every hearthstone in the State he loved so well;" his temporary successor, Senator Ross, who spoke of him as "a great-hearted, well-balanced, kind, intelligent, self-reliant, patriotic, honest man;" Senator Vest, between whom and Senator Morrill a warm personal friendship had existed for

twenty years undisturbed by political differences, and who said of him, "he was one of the most loyal and lovable men I have ever known," "one who sleeps, and sleeps well, in the granite hills of his native State, and whose memory will be loved and cherished until those mountains are melted with fervent heat;" and, finally, that noblest Roman of them all, that "old man eloquent" of the Senate, George Frisbie Hoar, who said, "we offer this man as an example of an American senator and American citizen than which, so far, we have none better." Surely, though "honor's voice" cannot "provoke the silent dust," if honest and heartfelt and well-deserved praise can soothe and gratify and animate the living, surely the surviving friends and compatriots of Senator Morrill can desire for him no higher eulogium than these words which found then, and find today, enthusiastic response in the hearts of all true Vermonters.

Such were the tributes which love and grief paid while sorrow for his loss was fresh, while sympathy prompted a kindly and generous estimate of one whose hand-grasp in ours was still warm. With the detachment afforded by a decade of years, with the opportunity and the obligation of the calm view which historic justice requires, what is our estimate of Senator Morrill today? One thing we can say with no hesitation and no fear of challenge, that, as Macbeth said of the gracious Duncan, as Senator Vest said of Mr. Morrill, "he

sleeps well," "nothing can touch him further." No scandal, no late-discovered wrong-doing has emerged to taint his memory in all these years—none can now emerge. His name was of spotless white all through the long years of his active life; his memory will be spotless hereafter. We are told to call no man happy till his death. Senator Morrill has safely passed the portal which shuts out all the chances and dangers of a reversal of judgment. His fame is "gathered and safe."

Addressing ourselves now to the sober and reasoned judgment which we of this later day are called on to pronounce, sitting as a tribunal whose impartial verdict anticipates the decisions of history, what place shall we assign to Mr. Morrill in the roll of worthies on which the fair fame of our State and Nation depends? It is sometimes said that democracies produce but few great men and that they do not love the few they do produce. It might be said in reply that democracies do not need the same kind of great men that other forms of society need—men who tower above the rest of the people, and organize and mobilize the mass—because the high average of ability and merit which democracy fosters is a better guaranty of social well-being than the phenomenal excellence of a few outstanding men. But it is open to us to challenge the statement itself, and to maintain that democracies have always produced, and can always be depended upon to produce a certain kind of great men, and that when produced the

people admire and honor and love them. These men are not great after the pattern of the Cæsars, the Charlemagnes, the Louis XIVs, the Napoleons, the Bismarcks, nor even after the pattern of the Mirabeaus and the Cromwells; they are not men who dazzle and overawe the multitude, and trample down inferiors, and have to ask indulgence from history for great crimes in consideration of great merits and services. They are men after the pattern of William of Orange, and Washington, and John Bright, and Lincoln—men who have the common virtues of the people or the Nation carried to a high pitch of excellence, and by virtue of that eminence in degree, rather than of any distinction in kind, are the natural and acknowledged and trusted and loved leaders of the people in ways which in their deepest hearts the people themselves approve and desire.

Of this class was Senator Morrill. I hesitate even in this class to speak of him as a great man. He was not a man who claimed homage in his lifetime. It was never natural to apply to him terms of eulogy. He neither used nor invited superlative or grandiose language. And yet what other American of our times has had a day set apart to his memory in almost every state and territory in the Union? It was said of Washington that he instituted in the minds of mankind a new order of greatness. May we not say of Mr. Morrill that in a humbler way he set up before our democratic people a pattern of public

virtue and public service which, if not a new one, is brought home to our people, and especially to our young men, with unusual and most impressive force in his person and career.

The incidents of Mr. Morrill's early life have been so often told in the public notices of him that we need not dwell much on them. He had the inestimable advantage of being born in the country, which a great writer says is one of the three greatest possible blessings in life. He was the son, the grandson, and the brother of blacksmiths, any one of whom, I doubt not, could have sat for Longfellow's honest blacksmith. It offends the self-importance of us teachers that he could have gotten so much education with so little of our schooling. The secret of it is, I suppose, that a few first-class books—they must be few as well as first-class—well read and thought over, eager and cogent discussions of great public events, such discussions as Scotchmen and New Englanders are capable of, these superadded to the inherited intellectuality and acquisitiveness of a good Yankee brain, will account for any degree of education short of one broadly liberal. How strange it sounds in these times that after a few years of good trade in a country store a man still young should decide that he had made money enough, and resolve to retire upon a farm and enjoy his *otium cum dignitate*! But this man, apparently without ambition, certainly without ambition in the Roman sense, this man who would not go about begging for votes to

put him in office, was the man whom the people wanted in office—would that all our people wanted such a man! And accordingly they sent him to the National Congress and kept him there longer than any other member of Congress had been kept in office during the whole existence of our Government. Why did our little State of Vermont have the great good fortune to be represented by such a man, while many large and powerful States have been represented by inferior men? Was it because of the lack of able and good men in these States? Certainly not. There is no dearth of good men in all the States. If Mr. Morrill had been a resident of some other State would he have been sent to the Senate from that State? It is at least extremely doubtful. I should be sorry to think that all States are represented by their typical men, but in Mr. Morrill, Vermont was so represented. Vermont and Mr. Morrill were exactly, ideally fitted to each other. Of no other State would he have been so fit a representative. And I do not say that Mr. Morrill represented all of Vermont. We do not forget Vermonsters of other types, as true Vermonsters, equally deserving of our pride and praise, whose names I dare not speak for time would fail me to tell of them. Nor do I think that Mr. Morrill reproduced, would as fittingly represent Vermont in the time to come as he did in his time. Vermont has changed with all the rest of the world. The country life, village life, farm life, the country schools, the

country churches, the town meetings, the village squire, the village store and tavern and blacksmith's and cooper's shops, the old plain-living and high-thinking society as it was in the beginning and earlier half of Mr. Morrill's career—all this is very much changed and has almost ceased to be. Vermont will never have another Mr. Morrill, because the elements which produced him have passed away. All the more reason this why we should make the most of him, and fix him in our affections and memory as an everlasting possession, and why we call upon men of the other States to join us in appreciating and honoring him.

The puzzling thing to account for, apparently, in Mr. Morrill's career, is the passing of the small storekeeper and the small farmer into a statesman of national breadth and cosmopolitan ideas. The underlying assumption is that a man who grows up in a parochial environment will have parochial ideas of all things, and there is much reason in the assumption. But the explanation of Mr. Morrill's case is not far to seek. He had in him the capacity of growth, and he grew up to his capacity. As we teachers well know, the great difference in youths is a difference in capacity of growth. As it is with seeds so it is with souls. Some seeds in the best soil come to little; others absorb all that soil and sun and rain can bestow, and grow amazingly. I have no doubt that even when Mr. Morrill joined in discussions in the country store,

when he was a farmer among farmers, his neighbors recognized him as the broadest man among them. But when he went to Washington he became, and he remained to his last day, a laborious student of national affairs from a national point of view. He maintained his political headquarters at, and took his political bearings from, no longer Strafford, or the Congressional district of his State, or Vermont, or New England, or the North, but Washington for a center, with a radius reaching to the remotest corner of the Union. Doubtless he loved as much as ever the Ompomponoosuc River, in which he had fished and bathed when a boy; but his thoughts and his dreams now ran with the Potomac and the Mississippi. Any American who has the capacity for greatness will become great-minded and great-hearted if he will let his being flow out with the lines of latitude and longitude, and with the length and breadth of the thoughts and ideas of his whole country; and this Mr. Morrill did, and this was the reason why, while others remained narrow and sectional and intolerant, he grew into statesmanlike breadth and magnanimity.

The best illustration and confirmation of this view of Mr. Morrill we get in looking at the three great series of measures for which his public career is distinguished. The first is his tariff measure. That which most impresses one in reading through the debates in Committee of the Whole during the progress of the original Morrill Tariff Act is his masterful

grasp of details on the one hand, and on the other the large, impartial, catholic outlook over the whole field of industry and commerce. While others were mainly intent on getting a selfish or sectional indulgence for sugar or rice or cotton ties or collars and cuffs, he kept ever in mind the provision of the Constitution that taxes should be laid and collected in order to promote the general welfare. When we look back over this distance of time, and study the circumstances under which this vast system of protective legislation was first organized; when we consider how improbable it was that a measure involving so many conflicting and mutually jealous interests could have been so adjusted as to have any chance of success; how admirable appear the patient consideration of all views and claims; the calmness and poise of judgment, the conciliatory and persuasive wisdom which carried the measure through with so little final opposition. Contemporary applause does not follow this kind of statesmanship. A legislative measure consisting mainly of percentages does not furnish material for a sonorous peroration. But history, with its clear and solemn though late award of praise, forgets the brilliant maker of speeches, and treasures the memory of the man who by wise and patriotic fiscal measures encourages and fosters the industries, trade, and commerce of his whole country.

Next consider the prominent part taken by Mr. Morrill in the erection of the great public buildings which adorn the

seat of Government. It is really a marvelous thing that Mr. Morrill, of all the men of his generation, should have been the most ardent and persistent advocate of splendid national architecture. How did he, more than any statesman of his time, arrive at that high and fine appreciation of the elements of national greatness which prompted him to say, as reported by Senator Vest, that no people could arrive at the first rank in civilization and refinement who were not devoted to architecture and its majestic and beautiful forms of art? Where did this plain man from a little country village, who had not traveled extensively, who had had little opportunity for studying the great architectural monuments of the world, where did he get his conception of the significance and value of the grand and gorgeous and imposing in national architecture? Surely it should have been some denizen of a great city, or some statesman widely traveled and thoroughly versed in art; it should have been Sumner, or Motley, or Everett, or Evarts, or one of the Adamses, who should have roused national sentiment and taste to this height of artistic appreciation. I think the explanation of Mr. Morrill's enthusiasm on this subject is not far to seek, and again I find it in his large and noble patriotism. Mr. Morrill's own magnanimity, his idealization of his country as being essentially great and commanding and glorious, demanded that every embodiment and expression of that nationality should be dignified and impressive and

costly. And this not only because it is in accord with the fitness of things, but because government better fulfills its own purpose, commands respect and obedience, calls forth loyalty and pride and affection, when it appeals to both head and heart through symbols which bespeak its intrinsic authority and majesty and sanctity. The Library of the Congress of the United States, simply because it is the Library of the Congress of the United States, ought to be enshrined in the most superb library building in the world—and it is. The Supreme Court of the United States, the most august judicial body in the world, ought to hold its sittings in an edifice which declares to all the world the public sense of the solemnity and authority of the supreme law which that court adjudicates; and if Mr. Morrill's last words in the Senate are heeded, as they deserve to be, such an edifice the Supreme Court will ere long have.

This brings us to the last and greatest of Mr. Morrill's public measures, the national endowment of higher education, the founding of—not "Agricultural Colleges," not such exclusively, but as he himself styled them in a bill he introduced December 15, 1873, "National Colleges for the advancement of general scientific and industrial education." It is pertinent to say in passing, in view of past and recent discussion on this point, that it was very far from Mr. Morrill's intent to make these institutions narrowly technical. He said at

one time, "These colleges were not established or endowed for the sole purpose of teaching agriculture. It was never intended to force the boys of farmers going into these institutions so to study that they should all come out farmers. It was merely intended to give them an opportunity to do so, and to do so with advantage if they saw fit. Not manual but intellectual instruction was the paramount object." In brief it was Mr. Morrill's great statesmanlike and patriotic and philosophic idea that the industrial classes, as he called them, those engaged in the two great and paramount industries of agriculture and the mechanic arts, should be encouraged to educate themselves in the best way for their callings as men in the so-called liberal professions had hitherto been in their way educated for their professions. He lays down this principle and the practice which is to grow out of it in language which has occasioned divergence and controversy. It starts out apparently to establish a purely technical school of agriculture and the mechanic arts. But that was too narrow a statement of the education Mr. Morrill had in mind; so he inserted parenthetically "not excluding (therefore including) other scientific and classical studies." And yet, in order to keep the distinctive feature clear, the leading object shall be to teach agriculture and the mechanic arts? No, not to teach arts but branches of learning relating to these arts. The college was to be an institution of learning, in which the lead-

ing object was to teach branches of learning—that is, sciences. Does this now satisfy Mr. Morrill? Far from it. The main thought and motive of the whole is yet to come out. What is the ruling principle which is to shape and control these institutions? Is it to give a sort of apprenticeship to farmers and artisans in their callings—to be a trade school on the one hand or a school of abstract and visionary science on the other? No, it is to give education—not mere apprenticeship, not mere learning—an education which shall be first liberal, then practical—the best feasible combination of the two—an education which shall be adapted to the needs of those who are entering upon not only farming and mechanical pursuits, but upon all the pursuits and professions. This is not the first time in which legislation, in the effort to secure at the same time precision and elasticity, achieves comprehension at the expense of some inconsistency, and leaves some room for the narrow and the broad constructionists to reveal the faith that is in them—as events have shown. The language may well be compared for expansive comprehensiveness with those few but potent words which give validity to interstate commerce legislation. The measure when first presented encountered a variety of opposition which at this day is scarcely credible—from Southern statesmen on the ground that it was a direct violation of the rights of the States and an attempt to secure control of their most important

interests through an educational system; from others that it was "a visionary project," "an extraordinary engine of mischief;" most amusing of all, from the Senator from Minnesota who declared that "the success of the measure would bring a slow, lingering death to Minnesota;" and finally from President Buchanan, who, after the bill had passed both Houses, vetoed it on the two-fold ground that the Government was too poor to make the proposed donation, and that the bill was unconstitutional. This was in 1859—a year dark and ominous in more than the loss of this patriotic and potentially beneficent measure.

But in 1862—a year marked at the same time by intense absorption in military events, and a revived national feeling which looked hopefully into the future, Mr. Morrill again introduced his bill and secured its final passage, with the signature of Mr. Lincoln. Under this bill, this "visionary project," this "engine of mischief," this "breeder of lingering death" to great agricultural States, and bills supplementary and auxiliary thereto, there have been established sixty-seven institutions of collegiate grade, having a permanent plant made up of Federal, State, and other appropriations and gifts valued at \$112,000,000; an annual income of \$18,000,000; an enrollment of 5,755 professors and instructors and 73,800 students. But more significant than these statistics, stupendous as they are, is the simple but momentous fact that in every State and Ter-

ritory in the Union, to the humblest boy or girl—for co-education in these colleges is almost universal—is access possible, and as easy as it is safe to make it, to the liberal and practical education which best fits him or her for the pursuit or profession in life which each may have chosen. Now I affirm that this is a distinctively American conception of public education; that in no other country in the world would it enter the head of a statesman to endow the higher education for such a purpose; that only an American of unusually large mind and generous heart could have conceived and elaborated and carried into act such a project; and that the far-seeing wisdom of the plan and the magnificent results which have already attended its execution constitute a title to the homage and gratitude of posterity which any statesman of any age or country might envy Mr. Morrill. Ages hence, whence the full potency of these institutions shall be realized and appreciated; when science and art shall coöperate in all our industries; when those who aspire to be masters, and not mere journeymen, in any trade or calling, shall seek and find mastership through a liberal education fitting each for his calling; when the three so-called learned professions shall be merged in the dozen or score of liberal professions; then there will be wise American statesmen who will say: “I would rather have been the author of the Morrill Act for the endowment of higher education than to have been the author of any other

of the great measures on the National statute books, except the very few great, heroic, epoch-making acts of the American Nation; and this was in itself, though humbler in its form and calmer in its operation, one of the great epoch-making acts of the American Nation."

The most significant lesson of Mr. Morrill's life to one looking forward to any form of public service is that he is the truest representative of the people who represents the best elements of the people. On the truth of this proposition hang all the best hopes of popular government. This, more than all else, divides public men into statesmen and demagogues. The man who believes in this principle and acts on it is, in so far, a statesman. The man who doubts and yields to his doubts is a demagogue. When the people see their worst side embodied in a public man, and acted out on the public stage in the eyes of the world, they realize the bad thing that it is, and are ashamed of it, and repudiate it and him. "Why did you yield to our ignorance and delusion, and flatter us with the pretense that it was wisdom and virtue, when as an assumed leader you ought to have taught us better? Away with you, and give place to a more honest and courageous man!" But when they see in a high place where they have put him a man who represents their better selves, who is above them and yet not so far above them but that they can claim sympathy with him and have power to appreciate and approve him—

a man of whom they can say “we are not profoundly wise, but this man represents us even when he is wiser than we are, because he represents us at our best”—that is the man to whom the people love to show their favor by keeping him in his high place as long as he has power to do them service. The people can be fooled, but they repent of their folly and curse the man who fooled them. But the man who never fools them, never yields to them, tells them the truth whether they like it or not, insists that they are better and wiser men than they profess to be, appeals from the populace drunk or mad to the people sober and sane, that man is not only justified in his own mind and by the few wise; he is in the long run the popular favorite, the man universally respected and beloved and continued in office as long as his faculties survive; the wise and good man, of whom his constituency, his State, his Nation, are proud.

I said a moment ago that I hesitated to acclaim Mr. Morrill as one of the Nation’s great men. I did so partly because his modesty would have rebuked me for so praising him, and partly because the phrase itself is too cheap to be applied to such a man. But now, avoiding any language which he or anyone might regard as fulsome, estimating him at his real worth, calmly, judicially, and yet with the warmth of admiration and affection which friendship requires and justice approves, shall we not, here and now, clasp hands with the Muse of History and say—here was a man of superb physical pres-

ence, of commanding form and gracious manner, endowed with superior intellectual gifts, gifts of large discernment and keen penetration; capable both of the wit which exposes weakness and the humor which conciliates opposition; a man of vision, a vision which passes over all provincial boundaries and peers into widest national spaces and interests; a man whose wisdom partakes of that calm assurance of right and victory which evokes and inspires confidence in other men's breasts; a man whose integrity, unselfishness, devotion, no man ever thought of questioning as no man would think of questioning the constancy of the polar star;—here is a man whom Vermont will ever more honor as one of her truest and finest and noblest products, and one whom she presents to the Nation and the world as in Senator Hoar's phrase: "an American senator and American citizen than which, so far, we have none better."

Thus far of Mr. Morrill, the citizen, the public man, the statesman, the senator. But the picture would not be complete or true to the life, if we do not add in the simplest words which alone would be appropriate of Justin Smith Morrill, the man—that he was held in high esteem by his neighbors, that he was a lover in his home, that he was warm and genial and devoted in his friendships, that he was a gracious and courteous gentleman, and that he was, in his own humble and silent and reverent way, a Christian indeed.

ADDRESS OF
SENATOR WILLIAM P. DILLINGHAM*

IT was fitting that President Buckham should be selected to deliver the historical address on this notable occasion. No other man now living in Vermont was honored by a friendship with Senator Morrill so long continued or so intimate. No other man could have honored the occasion as he has done. The address to which we have listened is not only chaste and eloquent in diction but so comprehensive in character, so complete in all its parts, and so appreciative of the rare qualities of the man whose birth we celebrate and in whose achievements we glory, that those who follow can add nothing either to its excellence or its charm.

I am here today in glad response to the invitation of our honored Chief Magistrate, not for the purpose of delivering an address, but to join my fellow citizens in this State-wide celebration of one of the red-letter days in Vermont's calendar,—a day which gave to the State a great son, and to the Nation a great legislator.

As I have considered his remarkable career, the element in

*Senator Dillingham spoke extemporaneously but substantially as here given.

Senator Morrill's life which has challenged my interest more than any other is the fitness he showed for public life when he entered the National legislature. To one living in the present age his previous life as a country merchant in a small village seems to have been an isolated one. Only four states had been added to the Union when he was born. He was twenty years of age when Peter Cooper invented the steam locomotive which, in a trial trip, surprised the public by actually making better time than the horse-cars then in operation on the Baltimore and Ohio Railway. He was thirty years of age before Boston and New York were connected by a continuous line of rails, and it was only two years before he entered Congress that Boston and Chicago were similarly connected.

If the means of locomotion were crude in those days it is also true that the communication of news was also slow. We have to remember that Mr. Morrill was thirty-four years of age before Morse succeeded in inducing Congress to make an appropriation of \$50,000 with which to construct his experimental line of telegraph between the cities of Washington and Baltimore, an extravagance on the part of Congress which caused more than one good man voting for it his seat in that body. And he was nearly forty years of age before the news of the world was brought to him by daily papers. Up to 1840 there was not a daily paper in the United States having a circulation of more than five thousand copies. Even

James Watson Webb with all of his energy and by the employment of the pony express and sound schooners was unable to raise the circulation of the Courier above that number. Mr. Morrill, dwelling in a rural community, was dependent upon weekly papers in which the news was much condensed. Reports of proceedings in Washington were at least a week old when read, while news from Europe contained accounts of events of two months before.

But the fact must not be overlooked that Mr. Morrill came of sound New England stock. His was a sound mind in a sound body; and he inherited a taste for reading, a capacity to think, an ability to form sound opinions and to reach strong conclusions. President Buckham's declaration that "he had in him the capacity for growth and that he grew up to his capacity," has in it the secret of his great career. True it is that his schooling was scanty, but however few his studies may have been in the common school and the academy in which he had one or two terms, accuracy was required in these and he was taught to think. This great asset he carried into his everyday business, into his social, religious and political life. He was a methodical seeker after knowledge, sounding every source of supply. I have it upon the authority of Miss Swan, a sister-in-law of Senator Morrill, who as a member of his family ever after his marriage, had exceptional opportunities for observation, that during his early

manhood and ever afterwards he maintained a private library where he spent all his evenings and such other time as he could afford, in reading works of English literature and special treatises on almost every subject, political and otherwise, which engaged his attention; that it was the habit of his life to secure the latest works upon every current question which became prominent in his thought; that in his reading he took voluminous notes and not infrequently prepared papers upon topics suggested by his reading, thus acquiring the elegance and accuracy in expression for which he was noted. The nature of his business was such also as to interest him in all the movements of the times, political and industrial, and his system of reading such that he became thoroughly cognizant of the principles underlying every public question which challenged his attention.

What an array of great National issues presented themselves during the next twenty-five years for the consideration of thoughtful and patriotic men! Senator Morrill had reached the age of eighteen but had been three years in business when the tariff act of 1828 was adopted. He was twenty years of age when the great debates between Webster and Hayne occurred in the United States Senate, and his attention was thus directed to the great constitutional questions involved. He was twenty-two when South Carolina startled the Nation by the adoption of an ordinance intended to

nullify an act of Congress. He was twenty-nine when the Nation passed through one of its greatest financial crises by reason of unsound banking methods and the consequent suspension of specie payments, and he thus had his attention directed to the great questions of finance of which he afterwards came to be the master-mind in legislation. He was thirty-four when the famous Walker Tariff was adopted and was thirty-six when England repealed her corn laws and entered upon her course toward the system of free trade which she afterwards adopted in its fullness. He was forty-four when President Pierce negotiated with Great Britain the reciprocity treaty, under the operation of which our exports to Canada rapidly dwindled and our imports increased by leaps and bounds. It was a reciprocity treaty confined almost wholly to natural products and had the effect to give the markets of New England to Canadian farmers. And I may add in passing that it was largely through his efforts twelve years later that this treaty was abrogated.

Thus, during what may be called the preparatory period of his life, it fell to Mr. Morrill's lot to witness the development of the system of slavery until its black cloud overshadowed our national life, and to become a thoughtful student of the great constitutional questions which involved the relation of the several states to the general government, and of all the great economic questions affecting the Nation's progress.

It was this education which enabled him to enter Congress at the age of forty-five, ripe in his knowledge of pending legislation, strong in his convictions and fitted to take earnest, early and intelligent part in the deliberations of the body to which he had been elected. It was but natural that he should vote against the tariff of 1857 which brought such financial distress to the country—a distress which enabled him to secure the passage of the tariff measure which bore his name and brought him fame, and to secure for it the approval of President Buchanan two days prior to the inauguration of the great Lincoln as President of the United States. The value of this great achievement in legislation, and of the internal revenue law in the forming of which his hand had so much to do, can only be understood when we remember that it furnished the sinews of a war which covered an area as large as that of Continental Europe, excluding Russia; in which conflict the men bearing arms outnumbered the entire population of the United States at the time the Constitution was adopted, and the army of whose dead was greater in number than the standing army of the United States at the present time.

I do not know the facts, I have had no opportunity to make proper inquiry, but when I consider the legislation inaugurated and perfected by Senator Morrill providing for the endowment of agricultural and mechanical colleges in every State and Territory of the United States, I can but believe

he was inspired to this action by the same system of reading of which I have spoken, remembering as I do that it was in 1840 that the great German chemist, von Liebig, through his "Chemistry in its Application to Agriculture, etc.," first successfully aroused the attention of Europe to the study of agricultural chemistry, as a result of which study German agriculture has been brought from low conditions to those so perfect that the products of that nation at the present time are nearly sufficient to maintain its vast population of forty millions of souls.

The effect of Mr. Morrill's thoughtful reading was also shown in his love for art, architecture and landscape gardening. This found expression in his charming home in Strafford, in its attractive grounds—both the fruit of his own conception; also in his efforts to induce Congress to devote the use of the old hall of the House of Representatives to statuary purposes, in which may now be found in marble and in bronze the forms of those who, either in war or in peace, have had glorious parts in the founding and development of the States of our Union. Also his efforts to bring to completion the great monument to Washington, the partly finished shaft of which had stood for so many years as an eyesore to all patriotic souls.

It was this broad field of reading and his service as chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds that explains his interest in the development of our National

Capital. It was the dream of Senator Morrill's life to make Washington the most beautiful capital city of the world, and he gave his untiring effort to the accomplishment of this end. His attention was first directed to the enlargement and perfection of the grounds about the Capitol building. No one without legislative experience can understand the task involved in such an undertaking. The Record shows that his efforts in this direction covered a period of more than eight years. In 1870 he secured an appropriation for this work and in 1872 still another for the same purpose. In 1874 he brought to his assistance the great landscape gardener, Frederick Law Olmstead, whose reports resulted in another appropriation for a topographical survey of the grounds. In 1876 he secured still another appropriation for the improvement of the grounds, and in 1877 an appropriation to extend their bounds. In 1878, sufficient grounds having been secured, the work of making them beautiful was carried steadily on. The magnificent terraces which surround three sides of the building are a monument to his taste and his efforts. Dissatisfied with the proportions of the Capitol building, he conceived the idea of constructing upon its north, west and south sides, marble terraces of proportions so grand as to give architectural strength and elegance to the building. In the accomplishment of this purpose nearly eight hundred thousand dollars were expended and, as a result,

the west front of the Capitol, viewed from any standpoint, is, with its grand approaches, an ever continuing tribute to the cultivated taste and persistent efforts of Senator Morrill.

But in the midst of this work and while Senator Morrill was dreaming of improvements to the natural park lying between the Capitol building and Washington monument, a mile away to the west, a bill was introduced in the Senate permitting the Pennsylvania Railroad to enter and pass through it to a station on Pennsylvania Avenue. As chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds he indignantly opposed this measure in the committee, but met with defeat—the only defeat, it is said, he ever suffered during his long years of service in that position. In the Senate he also gave all his energy to the defeat of this measure. The Record shows that during a long day session and again during a long night session he sought by every means in his power to defeat the invasion of these grounds for such a purpose, but failed. When in the end the measure was adopted it furnished, it is said, the only occasion in his entire public career when Senator Morrill's wrath brought with it a loss of self-control. Then it was that he suggested that the representatives of the Pennsylvania Railroad be given the privilege of the floor of the Senate and be authorized to dictate the policy of Congressional legislation affecting the interests of that corporation. It is an interesting fact that

thirty-five years later it cost the Government of the United States one million five hundred thousand dollars to secure from the same company a relinquishment of its rights of way through this park and an agreement to enter the city from the north, and that I, as one of Senator Morrill's successors, and acting as a member of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing vote of the two houses, consented to the payment of that vast sum.

The dream of Senator Morrill will become a reality in the progress of time. The work left unfinished by him was taken up by the Committee on the District of Columbia under the direction of its then chairman, the lamented McMillan of Michigan. A commission consisting of eminent architects like Burnham of Chicago and McKim of New York, of landscape gardeners of whom Olmstead was one, and of sculptors of whom St. Gaudens was one, were sent to Europe to study the park systems of the old world. Plans have been adopted and recommendations made which will result in the utilization of the entire park which so engaged the attention and protection of Senator Morrill. Standing upon the Capitol terraces and looking to the west one will soon see a stately parkway twelve hundred feet in width connecting the great dome of the Capitol with the great monument to Washington. The monument itself will be surrounded with massive terraces and an attractive arrangement of Italian gardens.

From the monument to the Potomac similar improvements will be made and in Potomac Park, already beautiful but to become more so, will be erected a great memorial to the great Lincoln. Across the historic Potomac, from that point to Arlington, there will be constructed, to commemorate the reuniting of the North and South, the most magnificent bridge from an architectural standpoint that can be devised. Twice already the Senate has passed a bill appropriating seven millions of dollars for this patriotic purpose.

President Buckham has already referred in appreciative terms to the building in which the Library of Congress is enshrined, which building stands as a monument to Senator Morrill's educated taste and his desire to make Capitol Square one of the noted public squares of the world. In his mind's eye he saw another building of like massive and beautiful proportions designed for the use of the Department of Justice and the Supreme Court, standing to the north of and upon a line with the library building, the two, with their beautiful grounds, constituting the east side of this great square. To secure this his last words in the Senate were spoken, and though the project now sleeps it is not dead; in due time it will be revived and we shall see in graven stone that which he saw only in imagination. Already this square is flanked on the north and south by massive marble buildings, classic in design, erected to the use of the Senate and

House respectively, and only the Judiciary Building is lacking to make Capitol Square what Senator Morrill so earnestly desired,—one which shall command the admiration of the world.

It would be a pleasure to refer to Senator Morrill's part in the establishment of the National Museum and in the erection of the State, War and Navy Building, one of the great Government buildings of the world, but time fails. In closing I can only give expression to the satisfaction I feel that the sentiment of the State has found expression in this manner; that the people have come together at this meeting not only in recognition of Senator Morrill's unblemished character as a man and his excellence as a citizen, but also for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the rising generation those grand elements of character and those constant and methodical habits of study, thought and industry which, added to his great natural powers, enabled him to take effective and leading part in shaping the Nation's destiny during the most important and critical era of its history.

His life was one which the young men of this State may well take as a model, and in his public service they may find an inspiration to lives of highest achievement.

ADDRESS OF
COLONEL WILLIAM M. HATCH

SITUATED at the crown of the beautiful hillside cemetery overlooking the little village of Strafford is the mausoleum in which rest the remains of Justin Smith Morrill; a house made with hands, and appropriately of native granite, but holding a memory which will be eternal.

A national—even a world-wide character—but to the manor born.

Statesman and economist, though reared in a country village almost wholly without political or commercial activity.

Financier, although the training of youth was confined to the village store.

Scholar, although self-taught.

Art lover and artist, though his early inspiration could have been only from the environment of green fields, hills and valleys and from sunny skies, coupled with God-given ideals and an imaginative and sympathetic temperament.

But to those whose privilege it was to know him best he was just a man—a gentle, courtly, considerate, lovable man—a gentleman.

In a notable address, delivered a few years ago at New Haven by Dr. George W. Atherton, President of Pennsylvania State College, on Senator Morrill, he said: "He belonged to the 'plain people.' He was the son and grandson of a village blacksmith and was early inured to habits of industry and thrift."

The substance of Dr. Atherton's appreciation in my opinion is fundamental. Add to it the one word "growth," with the resultant "prepared," and you have a well-rounded life of earnest, honest and successful labor.

With the exception of two terms at Thetford Academy and one at Randolph Academy, Senator Morrill's early education was confined wholly to that offered by the district schools of his native town. His "schooling," so-called, was completed at the age of fourteen or thereabouts, and yet he was not one to be unduly complimented with the words "self made." He was not infrequently heard to say that it was the regret of his life that he could not have had a collegiate training, as much for the associations as for the cultural benefits.

Employment in the store of Judge Harris for a period of two years followed, and it is understood, at a yearly salary of approximately fifty dollars.

He then went to Portland, Maine, and remained for four years engaged in similar service with a cousin, Jedediah Harris Morrill, acquiring as well a helpful knowledge of foreign

trade, and returning then to Strafford to accept a partnership with his former employer. This partnership continued for a period of fifteen years, when Mr. Morrill retired, purchased land adjacent to the village, built an attractive home, whose generous hospitality many of you have enjoyed, married and settled down to what he must have anticipated and hoped would be a well-earned retirement from the confining needs and duties of the village store, to take up the—to him—far more congenial occupation of farming—an occupation which, in the words of the modest biographical sketch of the Congressional Directory, he honored and dignified for forty-four years,

Destiny found Justin Smith Morrill in the year 1854 and Mr. Morrill found opportunity.

Practically unknown beyond the limits of Orange County, his neighbors nevertheless regarded him as of Congressional timber and, the then incumbent declining a renomination, suggested the name of their fellow townsman for consideration. His election followed, although with a margin uncomfortably close, and a service to the State and Nation for nearly a half century succeeded, almost without opposition.

Opportunity

Master of human destinies am I!

The man who wrote that and the succeeding lines some years ago for Truth was the subject of a conversation which

I was privileged to hear one evening in Washington between Senator Allison and Senator Morrill at the home of the latter. This man was a distinguished Senator from a great Western state—a party associate—and his attitude toward the tariff bill then before Congress was the subject of this conversation. When taken to task in committee room for apparent party disloyalty and for insincerity, the Senator's reply as quoted was: "I don't care a damn, so long as I secure my reëlection."

The evident shock to Senator Morrill, and his estimate of the effect of such a position, on the man himself as much as on the party organization and on the party faith, with his accurate analysis of conditions then existing, I recall as if only yesterday. The Senator loved his party and all that it had stood for, as he did his neighbors and the people of his native State whom he so thoroughly understood. But, although a partisan, he was not a party bigot, and many incidents and acts of his life can be cited in proof of this. His constant thought of the interests of his constituents and his frequent and successful efforts in their behalf in a personal way were known to all of you. With him, as with his distinguished colleague, the late Senator Proctor, it would have been impossible to have received a constituent's request for endorsement for appointment in Washington, and, as did a former Senator from this State, make the formal reply that he "had made it an invariable rule not to endorse applicants for office, and that he could not see his way clear to make this instance an exception."

Senator Morrill took special delight in aiding young men, and that he did not confine his efforts in their behalf to those of the same political faith is shown from a letter which he wrote to his friend—a former Vermonter, as you know—General Vilas, Postmaster-general during President Cleveland's first term, endorsing an applicant for appointment in the post-office department. The Senator wrote: "This will introduce my young friend——. Although a most pestiferous young Democrat, I will be responsible for all he steals."

This same "young Democrat" was handing out his party ballots at the State election following, and in a spirit of jolly-ing handed a set to the Senator, who walked along a few steps, adjusted his glasses, looked at the ballots, then turned and said: "Son, I'd a good deal rather see you peddling these ballots than none at all." And then, with a twinkle in his eye, added: "I'm not sure, however, you'll think that a compliment."

That Senator Morrill remained a student of the policy of protection with unabated interest, although with qualifying judgment, is shown by the following:

This same young Democrat recalls carrying the official returns to Senator Morrill sitting in his library on the evening following the election of President Cleveland for a second term. When asked to what he attributed the remarkable reversal, early apparent, the Senator thought a moment and

said: "It may be that the principle of protection has been carried just a bit too far."

And four years later this young man, with many others of the State, found some of the chief tenets of old line Democracy only among the fundamental principles of Republicanism. On election morning he called on Senator Morrill and announced his intention to support the Republican nominees, and the reply was characteristic of the man: "I won't say that I am glad, but rather that I hope you'll never regret having done so."

Need I suggest the probability of an influence of many years, unintentionally exerted and unconsciously received.

That the Senator's breadth of vision, resulting from exhaustive study and an absolute sincerity of purpose, coupled with a desire to be right fundamentally and to be fair to party opponents as well as party associates, accounts in large measure for the influence which he exerted, for his close personal friendships regardless of party affiliation, for his almost unprecedented success in securing wise legislative enactments with a minimum of effort and friction, is a matter of absolute certainty.

To give an appreciative recognition of this by way of illustration you will pardon a personal reminiscence. It was my privilege to call on President Cleveland in May, 1886, with the sister of Mrs. Morrill, Miss Swan, whose intimate

association with the Senator's family has remained to this day. We were conducted to his office and while there the President said to Miss Swan, "I want you to come to my window," and with a sweep of his hand indicating the reclaimed Potomac flats, said: "You know we owe all this to Senator Morrill."

It is not difficult, therefore, to estimate or to understand the Senator's well-known influence upon Mr. Cleveland's administration, and one can admit that his advice was as patriotically sought as it was generously and patriotically given.

A genuinely modest man and a lover of real humor, not of low or doubtful comedy but of clean and wholesome wit; a passionate lover of the world's best literature and a constant student of it. His own "Self-consciousness of Noted Persons"—a most excellent and interesting compilation, well-conceived and modestly but thoughtfully distributed—indicates this forcefully. To see Senator Morrill in his library at Strafford or in Washington, or to sit with him there, was to feel a benediction.

The lavish hospitality of the widely enjoyed birthday parties at Washington will be remembered for many years. The diversified interests of his guests indicated the breadth of his acquaintance. Here were presidents, diplomats, statesmen, generals, authors, musicians—celebrities of every profession. A veritable salon! It came to be one of the most enjoyed social functions of the Capital.

In an address before the Vermont Historical Society delivered here in Representatives' Hall on October 25, 1894, on the presentation of the Wood portrait, the Senator showed both modesty and humor. He said: "Unincumbered, forty years ago, by any prior record of office holding, except that of tithing-man with which my excellent townsmen were prone to honor their fellow citizens when married late in life, it was necessary at the start of my official life to 'screw my courage to the sticking place,' even to meditate going at a bound into the Halls of Congress."

And again:

"I must not deny that Vermont has made my political life an exceptionally happy one, and I shall only trust that the honorable position so long occupied by me, when surrendered, as it soon must be, will be found by my beloved State with its dignity, prestige and honor unimpaired and undiminished."

"Home, home, sweet, sweet home!"

"I have never yet heard of the Vermonter who was ashamed of his birthplace!" So said Senator Morrill to his fellow townsmen assembled in town-meeting on September 22, 1883, for the purpose of voting on the Senator's gift of a town library.

Known to and knowing every man, woman and child in town, he was not only respected and beloved throughout the community, but, when at home, was frequently seen on the

hillside or on the village street enjoying a walk or calling on his neighbors, taking rides—invariably behind a first-class span, and not infrequently sitting at the store, the scene and source of his early training. He was a generous public benefactor and catholic in his gifts, remembering equally the three religious denominations of his town, as well as his own in Washington.

Senator Morrill was not so much a man to sit on the store steps with his neighbors and whittle, as he was to have a genuine appreciation of the real worth of some of those who did whittle; an unfailing consideration for them and without patronage; a profound respect for evidence of sound judgment born of careful, if not wide, reading, frequently yielding an opinion and advice for which he came to have a deep-seated respect.

He loved the little branch of the Ompompanoosuc winding through the valley, whose “raging torrent of the spring of the year,” the stage-driver, Frank Blaisdell, and Speaker Colfax made famous. And, as you will recall, the good-natured chaffing which he received from his friends following the Speaker’s return to Washington resulted in an amendment to the current River and Harbor Bill providing for an expenditure of \$50,000 for deepening the channel of the Ompompanoosuc. The Senator’s amendment was worthy of Proctor Knott’s harbor bill speech on Duluth.

In closing I ask you to enjoy with me a few brief quotations from the Senator's town library speech referred to above, for you will find therein the man.

The Senator said: "These remarks would not have been made—as I recognize the propriety when a gift has been made that the giver shall hold his tongue about it—but for a rumor that the town would be urged not to accept of the building, on the idea that it might increase taxation; the rumor, however, proved to be unfounded."

Senator Morrill had lived to see the population of the town decrease approximately fifty per cent. He had noticed the changing conditions with genuine solicitude; the abandonment of hill farms; the disappearance through the use of machinery of such home industries as knitting and apple-drying; the greatly decreased production of wool, poultry and eggs and perhaps of maple sugar, and his concern for these and other changes is that today of those whose love for this and other rural communities is greatest.

I quote again:

"It would be strange if I did not take a deep interest in the town of Strafford. I was born here. Here to me even the stars, the planets and the moon seem to shine more brightly than elsewhere, and here has been my home until that age has been reached when I cannot fail to realize how soon I must join the great company of those who were and are not.

Whatever may be the number of our living townsmen, that of those who have gone to their final rest is much greater."

Again:

"The work of our ancestors is finished but our town will live forever, and may not something more from us be hopefully expected?"

"When but a boy-clerk in a store of this village I started in 1827 a subscription for a town library with shares at two dollars each; there were, I think, about fifty subscribers. The capital was, however, too limited to flourish for any long period, and finally the books went out, like the doves from the ark of Noah, never to return."

"My early life was passed here in active business; the latter half of it in public service, possibly too long; of that the public will judge, but, though I differ with some of my fellow citizens in political opinions, I should regret to believe that I had a personal enemy in town, and certainly of no one am I the enemy. This act today is prompted, not for the purpose of obtaining the slightest benefit to me or mine, nor for the slightest notoriety. It is too insignificant for all that when compared with the magnificent gifts elsewhere of those blessed with much larger fortunes, and comes too late in life to subserve any selfish purposes. It is freely bestowed because I sincerely believe a permanent library, admitting the possibility of some steady normal growth, will promote as no other

equal expenditure can promote, the highest interests of the inhabitants of the town, uplifting their intelligence, their morals and their thrift, utilizing many hours of home life and making each one more and more to feel and to say that 'the lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places.' "

ADDRESS OF
COLONEL CURTIS S. EMERY

A SPECIAL regret I have at this time is that some resident of Orange County, who was an intimate friend of the distinguished man whose memory is today being honored, is not here to speak of him in a more fitting manner than is possible for me; that the voice of Judge Hebard, Governor Farnham or Lyman G. Hinckley cannot be heard in such words as they might have spoken of this splendid son of their county. But they, and in fact most of those who knew Justin S. Morrill, as friend only knows friend and neighbor knows neighbor, have either preceded or followed him to the great beyond.

Although belonging to another generation it was my fortune to live for many years within a few miles of his home, in a town adjoining his, to have met him frequently, and to have visited him in his home. These occasions I reckon among the choicest of memories, for I believe to have known this man was to have known perhaps the greatest man that this County or the State has ever produced, and I use this term with due regard to its full import, realizing what such an assertion implies. The world has never lacked, and prob-

ably never will lack great specialists, but he was more than that. He possessed that remarkable quality of mind which enabled him to become the master of any subject which confronted him; a great statesman, leaving his imprint during his nearly a half century of service in our National legislature upon perhaps more important legislation than any other man during the same time; always doing the work of a constructionist rather than a destructionist—the real test of statesmanship. While not a lawyer yet he knew the fundamentals of the law; he was no stranger to the science of medicine; he accomplished more in his time for the cause of education in this land than had been done before; set a new and higher standard in architecture than we had ever reached; he knew the best in literature and art. He modestly yet fearlessly approached any task, always with results, be it the construction of the great tariff act of 1861 or the designing of the beautiful home where he lived for so many years in Strafford. For this last work he required no architect or skilled decorator, his original and creative mind was equal to this as in everything he attempted. I well recall his once telling me of the rule he applied in placing the trees in the spacious grounds surrounding it. A measure of potatoes was thrown from the top of the house and wherever one was found a planting was made, resulting in a most effective arrangement. He, however, claimed no originality for the plan, giving credit to a certain English nobleman.

I will make no attempt at anything like a just and complete estimate of Senator Morrill, or to recount his life work; that service has been assigned to one far better fitted for such a delicate task. I am here rather to rejoice with others from his native county that we claimed a little more of his daily life, though no more of its great results, than the rest of the State. We like to recall the fact that such a man was born, educated and spent his days and was borne to his last resting place in our midst. Such a life must of necessity leave its impress in many ways upon a community in which it was lived, and it is impossible to estimate its value. Wholesome and elevating, it is bound to stir every young man to better thoughts and aims. The height to which he arose in public esteem served to arouse to greater effort the youth of his time. This is shown from the fact that for many years during his lifetime his town sent more of its young men to college than any other town of its size, I think, in the State.

Senator Morrill had a most remarkable personality. He was an ideal type of what is often referred to as a gentleman of the old school. Tall, dignified, and courtly in his bearing, faultless in dress, always friendly but with just enough reserve to hold his best and closest friends in check; they never thought of referring to him or addressing him by his given name, even in his younger days. Quite likely the times had something to do with this, but it is impossible to conceive of

him as any other than Mr. Morrill or Senator Morrill. One of the most approachable of men, a charming conversationalist, yet one with whom no one would ever think of taking liberties; always self-possessed, rather deliberate in speech, never making any attempt at oratory. Yet his public utterances were models and always claimed attention. His splendid face and noble figure were alone enough to carry conviction. His striking resemblance to Charles Sumner was often remarked upon in his later years.

It is well that the life of such a man should be reviewed from time to time, and it is especially pleasing to the people of his native county that such action should be looked upon with favor at this time, for they loved him, not for the distinction he had won, or because he was revered and loved by the great men of his day, but because they knew him as one of their own, their friend, their counsellor, and because they knew that his long career of usefulness was built upon a character as firm and enduring as the hills that surround his birthplace, his whole life as pure as the lilies which always in summer covered the little pond above his dwelling.

ADDRESS OF
HONORABLE HORACE W. BAILEY

"MR. MORRILL—THE MAN"

DRYDEN says "that the best evidence of character is a man's whole life."

When celebrating an event, whether it be national or individual, one is apt to select and dwell upon scenes and phases appealing most strongly to his personal view and temperamental taste.

Having passed from this life out into God's great universe, Justin Smith Morrill is now a part of our history, to be turned leaf by leaf, to be scrutinized, weighed, and to be measured by such standards as human wisdom may devise.

To the world Justin S. Morrill is, and will be known as, the veteran legislator, the constructive lawmaker, whose wisdom is imperishably written into our Federal statutes, where it will stand like a towering monument as long as government shall last.

It would take volumes to contain a record of all that he accomplished for the uplift of a nation, and the construction

and strengthening of her bulwarks, during the years of a long, vigorous and diligent life.

I leave to others the narration of events and items which make up the record of Mr. Morrill's public career. To me the life of Mr. Morrill, whose achievements have now passed into history, becomes a star of the first magnitude, because he was my ideal of a manly man.

He was void of an experience, yea practice, prevalent among some great men of buying his seat in high places for a cash consideration, or by the political intrigue of promises to be fulfilled—or oftener ignored.

Nothing short of a most manly man could have rounded out almost a half century of life in an elective office without personal effort, or even anxiety. Such a man was Mr. Morrill, and such was the record of his Congressional life. He was not a member of any political stock exchange.

In the great arena of public life he was the peer among noblemen, yet entirely void of the glitter and ostentation which follows in the wake of exalted position, or precedes the royal march with blare of drum and fife; naught but ideal manhood, raised to the superlative degree, can withstand such a pressure of the conventionalities.

To have come out of such a long public life unblemished by a vast multitude of active evil forces is not evidence of greatness as a lawmaker, but rather as greatness of the man.

Men who are the product of the highways and byways, having reached the zenith of renown unaided by the advantages of an early liberal education and the functions of polite society, sometimes forget, but never such a lapse with Mr. Morrill. The unpolished boy from Orange County, fragrant with the balsam and pine of its wooded hills, or laden with the dust of its fertile valleys, was as kindly received and as courteously entertained in the lobbies and committee rooms of the United States Senate as though he was to the manor born.

There was in Mr. Morrill a quality of heart which shone out through his countenance, touched every fiber of his physique, and made one feel the presence of a real, true man.

Men sometimes when they have acquired fame and fortune, turn their backs on the scenes of childhood, on early trials, struggles and friendships. Not so with Mr. Morrill; the addition of years, the increase of important responsibilities, his place in the circle of a great Nation's great men, in the midst of a world's greatest century, did not haze his vision of the Morrill home among the Strafford hills, nor weaken the friendships for the homelike of his early Vermont days. How appropriate that after "life's fitful dream" his mortal remains should repose in the midst of the scenes he loved so well.

He seemed to lack the vindictive qualities which make some great men small and dangerous and hated; bitter sarcasm, withering irony and invective were not instruments with

which Mr. Morrill won forensic battles and wrote laws into our statute books. But rather, through his being ran currents of kindness and benevolence strongly diked by walls of old-fashioned New England common sense and inherent honesty.

Nevertheless, through his make-up there coursed a vein of deep, rich and tender humor, which often ran on into mild but forceful ridicule, which when wielded by his own skillful hand became a potent weapon of offense and defense.

A careful reading of Mr. Morrill's speeches and writings confirms my belief that an entire chapter might be written on this phase of his character. He not infrequently made himself the butt of his own humor.

Then, measured by the Drydenic standard, Mr. Morrill's whole life is the best evidence of his character, because it is an inspiration to better thought, to better living, to the higher ideals in human character, and a splendid example of what diligence and an honest purpose in life will accomplish.

To say of any man that he was the kind of a man to inspire boundless confidence in mankind is a royal eulogy; such a man was Justin Smith Morrill, late Senator of the United States from Vermont.

TRIBUTES

FROM THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Washington, D. C., April 10, 1910

MY DEAR GOVERNOR PROUTY:

I greatly regret that I cannot be present to celebrate with you and Vermont the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Senator Morrill. Senator Morrill and my father were very warm friends, and it was my good fortune to know him and by personal contact to feel his great qualities. He was a model for all those who serve their country to follow, and he typified in the highest degree the sterling virtues that we all accord to those who were born and brought up in the Green Mountain State.

Very sincerely yours

WILLIAM H. TAFT

HON. GEORGE H. PROUTY
Governor of Vermont
Montpelier, Vermont

JUSTIN SMITH MORRILL

FROM REAR-ADMIRAL CHARLES E. CLARK

Washington, D. C., April 12, 1910

MY DEAR GOVERNOR:

Being indebted to Senator Morrill for my commission in the Navy I ask that this be received as a slight but grateful expression of feeling in accord with those who unite to honor him on the hundredth anniversary of his birth.

CHARLES E. CLARK

HON. GEORGE H. PROUTY
Montpelier, Vermont

FROM SENATOR SHELBY M. CULLOM

Washington, D. C., March 10, 1910

MY DEAR SENATOR:

Your note of the 9th instant, informing me that on the 14th of April next occurs the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Senator Morrill and that the people of Vermont propose to celebrate the day by holding a public memorial service at the capital of the State, has been received.

I first met Senator Morrill in 1865 when I entered the Thirty-ninth Congress. He was then chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and was one of the leaders of the

House. I became more thoroughly acquainted with him after entering the Senate in 1883. I do not now recall any man with whom I served here for whom I had a greater affection and whom I more fully appreciated as a statesman and as a friend. During his long term in Congress, longer than any other man in our history—forty-three years and nine months—I do not believe Senator Morrill ever made a single enemy. He was universally admired and respected by all.

He was a man of extraordinary ability and exercised a dominating influence on legislation from the time of the passage of the Morrill Tariff Act, one of the measures under which it became possible to carry to a successful conclusion the great Civil War, until the time of his death. The history of his life forms a complete legislative history of the United States for forty-three years. He was contemporary with Sumner, Blaine, Conklin, Morton, Trumbull, Logan and Thurman, but he outlived them all, and years after these great statesmen had passed away, he remained an active, influential Senator.

Senator Morrill was a safe, reliable and conscientious adviser, a man of sound judgment, with positive convictions, not yielding readily to the opinions of others. He was not a politician in the ordinary acceptance of the term. He was fortunate, however, in having a constituency who appreciated his high worth. I remember years ago visiting your State, and while there meeting prominent Republicans. The

Legislature to convene that winter was to elect a successor to Senator Morrill. I inquired who they intended to elect, and the universal reply was that they would elect Senator Morrill if he was living and that they would keep him in the Senate as long as he lived; this your State honored itself by doing.

We were neighbors here in Washington, and saw a good deal of each other, and it so happened that I was at his house but a few minutes after he passed away.

I am sincerely gratified that the good people of Vermont have resolved to honor his memory by holding services at your capital on the one hundredth anniversary of his birth.

Yours truly

SHELBY M. CULLOM

HON. WM. P. DILLINGHAM
United States Senate

FROM SENATOR JACOB H. GALLINGER

Washington, D. C., March 12, 1910

MY DEAR SENATOR DILLINGHAM:

It was my good fortune to enter the Senate when Justin S. Morrill was in full possession of his mental vigor and active in the affairs of that body. He was then its senior member, and I shall never forget his kindly manner towards me and others who were new to its rules and traditions. With a

practical knowledge of Federal legislation covering forty-three years in the House and Senate, the speeches of no Senator commanded more respect and attention than his. Spanning two generations of statesmen, he had witnessed and participated in the stormy scenes leading up to the Civil War, had been a prominent factor in that terrific struggle, had helped to shape the legislation of the reconstruction period, was a leader in the contests that followed to maintain the country's financial honor, and lived to see the United States take its place as the leading commercial nation of the world. His public service began under President Pierce in 1855, and ended in 1898, while William McKinley was Chief Executive. He was a Congressman and Senator under eleven Presidents and thirteen different National administrations, while his terms in the Senate exceeded those of any other member of that body.

This record of achievement came to one who had no other advantages than a common school and academic education. Beginning life as a merchant and farmer, Senator Morrill was early conspicuous in leadership in a section of the country where wisdom is looked for in age rather than in youth. Winning the confidence of conservative Vermont, he held both her faith and affection to the end of his life. His early training fitted him for the particular sphere of his activities as the constructor of legislation for the promotion of the com-

mercial growth of the United States. Author of the Morrill Tariff, his work is seen in all its revisions for more than a generation. He witnessed the growth of this country from a debtor to a creditor Nation as the result of policies he espoused and advocated. He came into the public service when sectionalism was predominant, yet he lived to see the United States firmly united by the same ties that Hamilton proposed for securing nationality. Our Constitution was born of the commercial necessities of the American people, and that Constitution has admirably fitted the wants of later generations as they have reached out to secure the commerce of the world.

Senator Morrill had a great part in preserving and perfecting the Republic the fathers had founded. His work was not in electrifying the people with passionate appeals, but in taking up the task where the orator and the enthusiast had left it, and then constructing the edifice on a sure and lasting foundation. Others have won greater contemporary praise, but few have deserved more encomiums than he for the fidelity of his labors in building for permanency. Full of years and honor, outliving the generation with which he began his public life, Senator Morrill's death was deeply regretted by the whole country.

Yours truly

JACOB H. GALLINGER

HON. WM. P. DILLINGHAM

United States Senate

TRIBUTES

FROM EX-SENATOR GEORGE F. EDMUNDS

Aiken, S. C., March 21, 1910

MY DEAR GOVERNOR:

Your most courteous and kindly letter of the 7th instant, honoring me with an invitation to attend and participate in the memorial celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Senator Justin S. Morrill, at Montpelier, on the 14th of April, was received here, where, or elsewhere in milder climes less strong and compelling than that of Vermont, the health of my family and myself makes it prudent to winter. I deeply regret that my health and the season of the year make it impossible to be present.

I well remember where and when I first saw Mr. Morrill. It was in the summer of 1855 on a Vermont Central Railroad train making its way from Montpelier to White River Junction. I had the pleasure of being introduced to him by a mutual acquaintance, as a member of the younger bar at Burlington, and was most kindly and cordially received. He had just begun his long career of public service in which he died—crowned with the grateful affections of all his immediate constituents and with the admiration and respect of the whole country.

Intimate association with Mr. Morrill for twenty-four years in the Senate, with never a cloud between us, made us brothers indeed. Noble, strong, brave and pure, his private

and public life was a beneficence to our State and Country; and the celebration of this anniversary is both an incitement to emulation of his virtues and good works and a deserved honor, lovingly bestowed, in his memory. Though distant, I join in it with all my heart.

Very sincerely yours

GEORGE F. EDMUNDS

HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE H. PROUTY

Newport, Vermont

FROM SENATOR NELSON W. ALDRICH

Washington, D. C., April 5, 1910

DEAR GOVERNOR PROUTY:

It was my good fortune to have served seventeen years in the Senate with Senator Morrill, and to have been closely associated with him during that period in the membership of the Committee on Finance, of which he was chairman. His high standards and clear perception always furnished to his associates an example and an incentive for better service in their senatorial work.

Vermont has furnished many illustrious names to the Senate roll of honor, but among these she has had no representative who has shown higher devotion to the public inter-

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ests, or greater zeal, wisdom, and patriotism in the discharge of every duty than Justin S. Morrill.

Very truly yours

NELSON W. ALDRICH

HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE H. PROUTY

Governor of the State of Vermont

FROM SENATOR H. CABOT LODGE

Washington, D. C., March 11, 1910

MY DEAR SENATOR DILLINGHAM:

I have received your letter of March 9th and I wish that I could be present to join in the memorial service which is to be held on the 14th of April in honor of Senator Morrill. He was one of the most conspicuous figures, not only in the Senate but in our public life, when I first came to Congress. I, of course, knew him in the Senate, as I had known him by reputation before, and I shared in the affection and profound respect with which he was regarded by the entire body of his fellow Senators. His high character, his great ability, his long and distinguished service, were an honor to the Senate and I am glad to think that the people of his own State are now to recall his memory and his services by a public meeting.

Sincerely yours

HON. WM. P. DILLINGHAM

H. CABOT LODGE

United States Senate

FROM EX-SENATOR WILLIAM E. CHANDLER

Washington, D. C., April 10, 1910

MY DEAR SENATOR:

Mr. Morrill's presence and conversation were pleasing to me—whether in the Senate or in delightful interviews like that at his Vermont home, where Senator Proctor took me on a joyous visit. He had a character which may almost be called perfect. There was his natural intelligence heightened by his long and instructive experiences. In a practical way he grew to wisdom unsurpassable. He was a profitable counsellor on almost any subject, and I often availed myself of his friendship to put his judgment to use and test—seldom, if ever, to regret trusting it. I took his desk in the Senate after we had laid him to rest in the snows of the State he so loved and served. Next me sat Senator O. H. Platt, and we talked of our friend not once but often. This is what I love to dwell upon almost entirely,—his sweetness of disposition. He was lovable in every fiber of his soul and this trait combined with an ever present sense of humor made personal intercourse with him most charming. I am glad of this opportunity to pay a brief tribute to one of the finest of men—an American statesman of the noblest type.

Yours very truly

HON. WM. P. DILLINGHAM

WILLIAM E. CHANDLER

United States Senator

TRIBUTES

FROM SENATOR WILLIAM P. FRYE

Washington, D. C., March 12, 1910

MY DEAR GOVERNOR PROUTY:

The people of Vermont do well in celebrating the centennial of the birth of Justin S. Morrill, as they did well in honoring him, and honoring themselves, by continuing him as their Senator until the end of his long life.

He was a worthy representative of a worthy State. His record was as pellucid and undefiled as the waters of its lakes and streams; and his character as rugged and impregnable as its granite hills.

To those of us in the Senate who long served with him and survive him, his memory is a benediction. Even after his physical powers had waned, we listened to him with profit and delight. His latest speeches showed no abatement of that keen analysis and delicious humor which illuminated the dryest subject. As chairman of the great Committee on Finance he was a potent figure in all the councils of the Senate, and he left an enviable record of achievement and patriotic service.

Very truly yours

WILLIAM P. FRYE

HON. GEORGE H. PROUTY

Montpelier, Vermont

RESOLUTIONS OF STRAFFORD GRANGE

WHEREAS, Senator Justin S. Morrill, born in and a beloved citizen of our town, whose one hundredth birthday is to be observed by the people of the State, at Montpelier, April 14, 1910:

Resolved, That we, the members of Strafford Grange, P. of H., also of the Justin S. Morrill Pomona Grange, send these resolutions to be read at this centennial.

Resolved, That as a citizen and friend he was respected and loved; as a statesman, a man of whom all were proud and all delighted to honor.

Resolved, That in his death this town has lost a citizen whose upright and noble life was a standard of emulation to his fellows, and whose utmost endeavors were exerted for the welfare and prosperity of his native State and Town.

Resolved, That we may always revere his name and honor his memory.

H. A. STICKNEY

MRS. G. W. DEARBORN

W. F. SCRIBNER

Committee on Resolutions

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